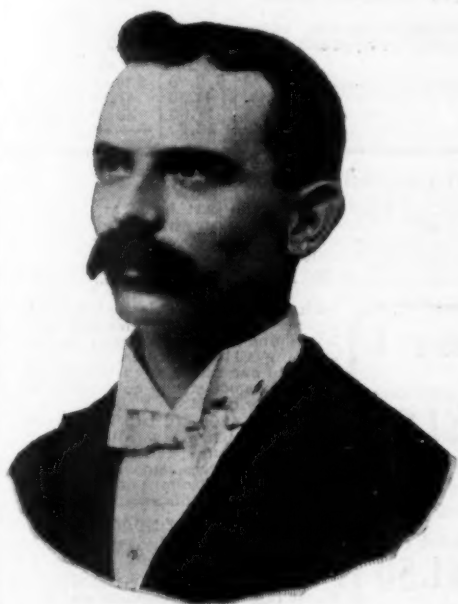


AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

44th Year.

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 19, 1904.

No. 20.



C. M. SCOTT.

(See pages 356-7.)



MIKE D. MOHR AND HIS APIARY.



BEE-SUPPLY STORE OF C. M. SCOTT & CO.



E. ZIELKE AND HIS APIARY.

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

ESTABLISHED IN 1861

THE OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

Entered at the Post-Office at Chicago as Second-Class Mail-Matter.

Published Weekly at \$1.00 a Year by George W. York & Co., 334 Dearborn St.

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor.

CHICAGO, ILL., MAY 19, 1904.

Vol. XLIV—No. 20.

Editorial Comments

Supposed "Manufactured" Comb Honey.

Some time ago we received by express a one-pound section of comb honey from J. L. Pitting, of Crawford Co., Ohio. Accompanying the package was Mr. Pitting's personal card, and a marked clipping from some newspaper which had very kindly published the standing offer of \$1000 for a pound of manufactured comb honey.

Evidently, Mr. Pitting thought he had found a sample of the manufactured article, and all he had to do was to forward it to us, when we would send him \$1000 by return mail.

Of course, Mr. Pitting was deceived, for the sample section of honey we received from him bore the rubber-stamp of one of our old subscribers in Reno, Nev. It is about the finest sample of alfalfa comb honey we ever saw. Its very beauty, and whiteness of comb and wood, must have caused Mr. Pitting to believe it was manufactured. He was not accustomed to seeing such fine specimens of genuine bee-work. We are not surprised that he was fooled. And yet, if he had seen together several sections of the same lot of honey, he would have noticed that no two of them were exactly alike, while, if machine-made, all would have been alike.

We at once wrote Mr. Pitting the facts in the case, but have heard nothing further from him. However, he has our thanks for his sweet gift. We are fond of nice alfalfa honey.

Shall Hive-Covers be Ventilated?

Covers made with thin boards above and thin boards below, with an air-space between, seem to be viewed with increasing favor, but there is a difference of opinion as to whether the space should be a dead-air space or ventilated. If a chief purpose of the cover be to keep the hive cool in hot weather, then it is better that the cover should be ventilated by having openings at the sides for the entrance and exit of air, for this will be cooler than to have the air confined. If it be important to keep the air warm in cold or cool weather, then the air should be confined, for a well-ventilated cover in winter will be little warmer than one made with a single surface of thin boards. So in very hot climates there would be advantage in the ventilation. In more northern localities the air should be confined. Still better, the cover may be made so as to have the openings closed in winter and open in summer.

Cleaning Bees from Extracting-Combs.

W. D. Soper gives in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture* a kink worth trying. He says:

I go to the hive, take out two combs, set them down, then I move over the next one so I can get at each side with a Coggsall brush. I smoke a little, and rub the sides of the comb with the brush. The bees will tumble off and disappear in the lower part of the hive. Take out this comb, do the next the same, until all are cleaned off and taken out. Take out as fast as cleaned off. Then put the two combs first taken out back in, and brush. The combs in a 10-frame hive can be cleaned in two minutes, and not a bee outside of the hive to crawl around—no queen lost, or robbers to bother.

Should Presence of Foul Brood be Concealed?

One answer to the question might be found in some of the foul brood laws, the one in Canada, for example, which makes any one subject to a fine who does not report to the proper officer if he knows of a case of foul brood in his own apiary or anywhere else.

But that refers only to making it known to the proper officer, so that the case shall be sure to be looked after, which is a very different thing from telling it to everybody. It is very desirable that no case should be concealed from the foul-brood inspector, but would it be the right thing for the inspector to tell every one in the neighborhood—or out of it, for that matter—that John Smith has foul brood in his apiary? Suppose John Smith sells bees or queens, what chance has he for making sales if it be generally known that his bees have foul brood?

That might disturb the business of John Smith, especially if he were dishonest enough to send out a consignment of foul brood with each sale made, but would it not be a good thing for others? and should not the rule be the greatest good to the greatest number?

When a contagious disease exists in John Smith's house, the city authorities promptly put upon that house a placard so that every one who passes by may know that scarlet fever or some other dangerous disease is there. They do not wait to inquire whether John Smith's business will be injured by it; they are not doing it to help John Smith; the general good is saved by it. The fullest publicity is sought. Should it not be the same with foul brood? Should inspectors or any one else conceal knowledge of cases of foul brood wherever found?

A Queen Lays 4000 Eggs in 24 Hours.

W. O. Victor, gives in *Gleanings in Bee-Culture*, the picture of a frame of brood which contained by close calculation 8200 cells of sealed brood, and this brood was all hatched within about two days from the time the first hatched. Mr. Victor thus feels sure that Mr. Doolittle's estimate of 4000 eggs in 24 hours was in this case reached.

A Bee-Paper a Necessity.

The necessity for a bee-book—a book that gives instruction in bee-keeping—has been many times urged in these columns. No doubt it will be urged many times in the future, for new members are constantly joining the American Bee Journal family, and it would be hard to give a more valuable piece of advice to a bee-keeper without a bee-book than to urge that he make some sacrifice if necessary to get one. No bee-keeper can afford to do without a bee-book and a bee-paper, but if he can not get both at once, let him get the book first. The necessity for the paper as well as the book has been less urged, but it is well put by James Lockett, in the *Australasian Bee-Keeper*, as follows:

But every bee-keeper, let him be the beginner, advanced or the finished bee-keeper—he should have the bee-journal in preference to a bee-book with two or three hundred pages, that has been written 10 or 15 years ago. The bee-keeper, who makes a start with a bee-book only, gives it all his attention for a start because it is new to him; after a time he thinks he knows enough about bees, and his book gets a rest—it is getting stale to him, and he goes on (in his own mind a practical bee-keeper), knowing about one-third of what he should know. The man that takes the bee-journal has always something fresh to look at—let him be the beginner or the practical bee-keeper, he is always ready and waiting at the end of the month to get his bee-journal and read it through, to see what information he can get. Here is where the beginner puts in some good work, he will see where

some bee-keeper made a terrible blunder—just what he was going to do himself. How he will smile and avoid the red light of danger that he saw in the bee-journal.

Then, again, if the bee-keeper is at a loss to find out something about his bees, and he can't see it in his bee-journal, how handy it is for him to write to the editor, who is always ready to give his subscribers the latest information that they may require.

Miscellaneous Items

Mr. Morley Pettit, of Ontario, Canada, wrote us May 6, as follows:

"Spring has really come now, and queens are working overtime to make up for the long delay."

Mr. F. A. Snell, of Carroll Co., Ill., called on us the first of the month. He is one of the old-time bee-keepers, yet as up-to-date and alert as the most progressive youngster in the ranks. He missed the Chicago-Northwestern convention last December, but we think he will not be guilty of so doing again.

Mr. M. M. Rice, of Grant Co., Wis., one of our long-time readers, called on us recently with one of his sons who is just graduating from the Chicago Theological Seminary. Mr. Rice lost practically no bees the past winter, having about 100 colonies. He is one of Wisconsin's many successful bee-men, and a genial man to meet, as well.

Mike D. Mohr, whose apiary is shown on the first page, is one of the younger bee-keepers, and lives in Rock Island Co., Ill. The picture does not show all of his bees. Mr. Mohr has read all the bee-books of importance, and with his experience not only manages his own bees, but also those of his neighbors. Last year was a very good one for white clover honey in his locality.

E. Zielke and Apiary appear on the first page this week. He has kept bees over 5 years, and also has worked a camera over 2 years. The picture is of his apiary in Nebraska, when he lived there. He has also kept bees in Alberta, Canada.

The fall of 1902 he shipped 3 strong colonies of Italians to Alberta, which were 14 days on the cars, and arrived very weak. They were wintered outdoors, and by spring were dead.

His Nebraska apiary averaged 23 pounds of comb and extracted honey per colony in 1902.

Deacon Hardscrabble, who wrote both sense and nonsense for the American Bee-keeper for several years, passed away Jan. 27. Considering his deaconship, he always seemed to scrabble hard to find the good in any one, even if he did put it down in black and white in a rather rough way. "Stenog" says in Gleanings that he "frequently dipped his pen in sulphuric acid." Perhaps he imagined by so doing his written words would have the same effect on the characters of those he criticised as such acid has on dirty beeswax. Still, it all served to please the Deacon, and never harmed "the other fellow." But "peace to his ashes"—without any sulphurous odors.

Queen-Rearing and Its Proportions.—Mr. John M. Davis, of Maury Co., Tenn., writing us May 4, said:

GEORGE W. YORK & CO.—

Dear Sirs:—We have had the worst season that I have experienced since being in the queen-business. Cold rains, high, cold winds, and days at a time that a bee dared not peep out of the hive, have been the order of the day. I am now returning all money to patrons asking for queens by return mail, writing them that I can not fill their orders before May 25 or June 1—that it will take me nearly so long to clear off my book. The queen-trade is assuming immense proportions.

Yours truly,

JOHN M. DAVIS.

Early queen-rearing, even in the South, seems to be interfered with nearly every year by unfavorable weather. This is exceedingly unfortunate, for there are many bee-keepers who require early queens in order to save colonies that became queenless during the winter.

Mr. Davis says the business of rearing queen-bees "is assuming immense proportions." True it is that the demand for queens is growing from year to year. And the breeder that is prepared to sup-

ply that demand with good queens will not lack for generous and profitable patronage, which is bound to increase as the seasons come and go.

White's Class Advertising Co. (which occupies the larger part of this 9th floor of the Caxton Building, at 394 Dearborn St., where our office is located also,) tendered a banquet to some of the leading publishers and advertising men of this country at the Union League Club, Chicago, on the evening of May 5. It was intended to limit the number of plates to 100, but it became necessary to increase the number, so that at the banquet there were 135 present. It was a rare occasion.

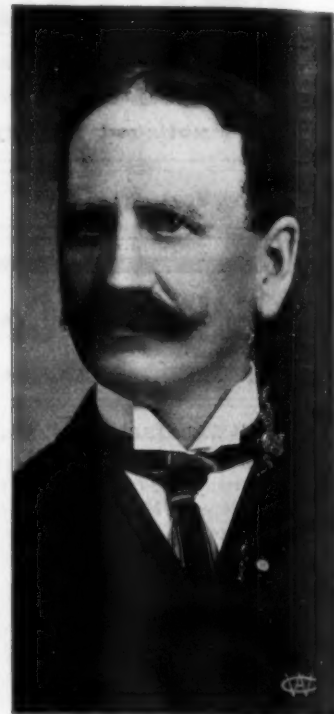
Mr. Frank B. White, whose picture appears herewith, is the president of the Company. He has an advertising experience of 17 years, and is a leader along the line of agricultural newspaper advertising. About 12 years ago Mr. White started the banquet idea among agricultural advertisers and publishers here in Chicago, and it was said that it was the first of the kind at which no liquors were served. Of course, this last banquet followed the same commendable rule.

It was the second occasion of the White's Class Advertising Co., last year's banquet having an attendance of but 85. It is the intention to make it an annual event. It will be looked forward to with great interest by those who are so fortunate as to be invited to participate. Dr. C. C. Miller was one of the guests on both occasions, and was probably the "oldest boy" present on May 5.

After the menu had been partaken of, Mr. White introduced the Editor of the American Bee Journal (the treasurer of the Company), who read interesting extracts from a number of letters received by Mr. White from those who regretted their inability to be present. They seemed to realize from afar how much they were going to miss.

Col. Hunter, of the Star Monthly, was afterwards introduced as toast-master for the occasion. He in turn introduced the various speakers of the evening. The general subject for discussion was, "Higher Ideals in Advertising." There were about a half-dozen excellent addresses, which will appear in due time in the monthly publication known as "White's Class Advertising," subscription price of which is 25 cents a year. It is a compendium of information along agricultural advertising lines, and one of the handsomest publications of the present day. Any one who is at all interested in the subject should read it regularly.

White's Class Advertising Co. is devoted exclusively to preparing and placing advertisements in the class of papers known as Agricultural. The Company was organized about a year ago, and has had a phenomenal growth. Its president, Mr. White, is imbued with a spirit of high ideals, and has an original way of carrying them out in his work. On May 1st the space occupied by the Company was more than doubled, in anticipation of the increased business which is promised for another year. With the clean and honorable way of doing business which has characterized the Company since its inception, it certainly has a very promising future. It is thoroughly equipped for handling its business in a satisfactory and up-to-date manner. It is proving its ability and efficiency daily. All it asks is an opportunity to serve the best interests of its



PRES. FRANK B. WHITE.



clients. Advertising has become a profession. It is a specialty unlike anything else, and it is but reasonable to believe that one who has made such a thorough study of it as Mr. White has during the past 17 years, should be a competent leader, and be able to realize the greatest possible financial returns from the appropriations which advertising concerns make to develop a greater demand for their goods.

White will treat you right—if given a chance.

Sketches of Beedomites

Mr. C. M. SCOTT.

C. M. Scott & Co. are bee-supply dealers in Indianapolis, Ind., as all our subscribers know who read the advertising columns of the American Bee Journal. On the first page this week we are pleased to present pictures of Mr. C. M. Scott and the store where the business is carried on.

Mr. Scott was born on a farm in 1869, where he remained until he was 17 years of age. In 1890 he established a branch bee-supply house in Indianapolis for G. B. Lewis Co.—the first branch house, by the way, that this well-known firm ever had. Mr. Scott was the manager, and conducted it in the name of the G. B. Lewis Co.

In 1901, Mr. S. bought the business from the Lewis Co., and those interested with him have since operated under the present name of C. M. Scott & Co., of which Mr. Scott is still manager. The business was at once moved to larger rooms, and they have each year since then increased their business and floor-space until at present they occupy more room than ever. But whatever the extent of the business is now (which has doubled), Mr. Scott has made it by promptness, strict integrity, appreciation, and politeness to all. He thinks nothing is too good for the bee-keepers. And the fact of handling the goods of the Lewis Co. would insure satisfaction along that line. His trade extends over Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, and even beyond these States.

Mr. Scott is a practical bee-keeper, and spends as much time with his bees as his close attention to business will allow. He has not missed a single business day at his store for nearly three years.

This firm have also been extensive dealers in honey the past year or so.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott are actively engaged in church and charity work, believing in systematic benevolence, which is bestowed without any ostentation on their part. He is a total abstainer, and in politics a staunch, voting prohibitionist.

As will be noted, Mr. Scott is one of the clean, honorable, and pushing young bee-supply dealers, of which quite a number, fortunately, are becoming scattered over our country. This promises well for the future apian business. We are glad to see that as the older bee-supply dealers, who made a success of the business, are either aging or passing away, their places are being filled with young men of such sterling character and signal ability. We wish them all, including Mr. Scott, the realization of their highest anticipations.

Honey as a Health-Food is the name of a 16-page leaflet (3½x6 inches) which is designed to help increase the demand and sale of honey. The first part is devoted to a consideration of "Honey as Food," written by Dr. C. C. Miller. The last part contains "Honey-Cooking Recipes" and "Remedies Using Honey." It should be widely circulated by every one who has honey for sale. It is almost certain to make good customers for honey. We know, for we have used it ourselves.

PRICES, prepaid—Sample copy free; 10 for 20 cts.; 25 for 40 cts.; 50 for 70 cts.; 100 for \$1.25; 250 for \$2.25; 500 for \$4.00; 1000 for \$7.50. Your business card printed free at the bottom of the front page, on all orders for 100 or more copies. Send all orders to the Bee Journal office.

Amerikanische Bienenzucht, by Hans Buschbauer, is a bee-keeper's handbook of 138 pages, which is just what our German friends will want. It is fully illustrated, and neatly bound in cloth. Price, postpaid, \$1.00; or with the American Bee Journal one year—both for \$1.75. Address all orders to this office.

Convention Proceedings

Report of the Northern Michigan Convention.

The annual meeting of the Northern Michigan Bee-Keepers' Association was held at Traverse City, Mich., March 30 and 31, 1904.

Owing to delay of railroad trains, caused by a flooded condition of the roads, the officers and members of the Association living north of Traverse City did not arrive until 5 p.m. of the first day. A number of members, and bee-keepers of Traverse City and from places south of there, gathered at Montague Hall and effected a temporary organization, with Geo. E. Hilton in the chair, and E. D. Townsend as temporary secretary. Mr. A. I. Root was also present. A very pleasant and profitable session was held, and several important questions were discussed in an informal manner. The minutes of this session were lost, or mislaid, so the secretary does not have the benefit of them in making this report. The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m., to reassemble at the hall at 7 p.m.

EVENING SESSION.

It was called to order by Pres. Geo. H. Kirkpatrick, and the business of the evening was opened by declaring the question-box to be in order.

EXTRACTED VS. COMB HONEY.

Why do bees, when run for extracted honey, produce more pounds than when run for comb honey?

Because they do not have to take time to build comb. Also, because bees gather more honey in cool weather, and wax for comb-building is produced less rapidly in cool weather.

Which is more profitable, extracted or comb honey? A. I. Root, E. E. Coveyou, and others, answered that it differs in different localities.

SPRING FEEDING OF BEES.

Does it pay to feed bees in the spring? Yes, especially if short of stores.

Do you feed in the fall or wait until spring? Mr. Bartlett said, better feed in the fall. Mr. Bingham puts the bees into the cellar with about 1½ pounds of honey per colony, and fed about 7½ pounds of sugar syrup; bees in fine condition at present.

What is the first thing we should do when we go home? Take an inventory of the blessings with which we are surrounded, and thank God for them all.

CLIPPING QUEENS—BEES IN CUBA.

Does it pay to clip queens' wings? Yes, by Pres. Kirkpatrick and Mr. Bartlett. Mr. Fox does not agree with them, thinking it does not pay.

Mr. Silsby asked Mr. Root for some experience with bees in Cuba. Mr. Root said they were not a success the past winter; not much honey.

SECOND DAY.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and approved. The latter reported expenses paid and one dollar in the treasury.

After a ballot was taken, and the votes counted, Central Lake was declared to be the place chosen for the next meeting.

The election of officers resulted as follows. President, Geo. H. Kirkpatrick; vice-president, E. E. Coveyou; and secretary-treasurer, W. Mohrman, of Central Lake.

SPRING MANAGEMENT OF BEES.

The spring management of bees was then taken up. Mr. Hilton thought that bees wintered in the cellar were more liable to dwindle in the spring than those wintered out-of-doors. If feeding is needed, feed inside the hives in the evening; use every effort to promote brood-rearing.

Mr. Bingham said he winters his bees in the cellar, and thinks the spring dwindling of cellar-wintered bees is due to less loss of bees during winter, the oldest bees dying soon after flight in spring. He had 150 colonies in the fall and united down to 75, which were in the cellar then.

Mr. Townsend said that most of his experience had been in out-of-doors wintering, and he does not favor stimulating for brood-rearing.

Mr. Coveyou had noticed that bees went together when set out in the spring; he would close the entrances to prevent it.

BEE-SMOKERS—UNCAPPING HONEY.

Mr. Bingham showed the construction of his smokers to prevent blowing ashes and creosote upon the bees. For fuel he uses tamarack, hemlock or maple bark.

Mr. Root asked as to what the bee-keepers present use in smokers? Replies showed rattan wood, maple bark, excelsior, chips, etc.

Mr. Bingham was asked how to uncap honey. He answered: Keep the knife sharp and moist; if left to dry, with honey on the edge, it will not cut so well. If wet or moist the knife moves freely and cuts perfectly.

Mr. Townsend explained how his son uncaps honey, also their method of brushing bees from combs. He also asked if any one present worked for comb honey on the Hill plan, visiting apiaries once a week. No response.

BEE-ESCAPES—T SUPERS.

Mr. Root asked about the use of bee-escapes. A large percent of bee-keepers present use them with good results, both for comb and extracted honey.

James E. Harwood asked which is better for comb honey production, section-holders with fences, or T supers? Both are successful.

CLEANING EXTRACTING-COMBS.

Mr. Bartlett asked whether bee-keepers present put extracting-combs out so that the bees may clean them up in the fall. It was thought to be better to do so than to leave them just as extracted from.

Adjourned to 1 o'clock p.m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

This was the foul brood session. The subject was taken up and discussed quite generally, but no quick, "sure-cure" remedy was advised.

FOUL BROOD AND NATURAL SWARMING.

Do bees ever carry foul brood with them in natural swarming? In the discussion no definite conclusion was reached.

Mr. Root thought there was no danger of bees getting foul brood from honey left by bees dying in trees in the woods, as he did not think they carried it with them in swarming. Being asked by the secretary if bees from trees did not have the same chance to rob hives where they had died of foul brood, Mr. Root said he would give it up.

The convention adjourned *sine die*, at 2:20 p.m.

JAMES H. IRISH, Sec.

Contributed Articles

Black Brood—How to Get Bee-Laws.

BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

EVERY student of animal life is conscious that all animal forms are quick to vary, when submitted to different conditions. This tendency has given us our races of people, our breeds of cattle and other domestic animals, and, not least in importance, the several races of our bees. If all the higher animals and plants are subject to this law, why then should not the lower be as well? Remembering this law and tendency, we are not surprised at the conclusions of the scientists of the Department of Agriculture, that black brood is only a different form of foul brood, and both the result of the selfsame *Bacillus*.

I have found the genuine foul brood of California appearing under two quite different types or forms. They appear alike in nearly every particular, but in the real typical form the brown, unctuous mass when drawn from the cell with a tooth-pick or pin, will, when it lets go, fly back with a snap as though there were much elasticity in the drawn-out string. In the other form, which is not at all scarce where the disease abounds, the string lacks the spring, and

does not fly back, but simply falls down. I have never doubted for a moment that both were foul brood, and supposed that the modification was simply an illustration of the law referred to above.

That there should be a still more modified form, and that it should appear as the so-called black brood, need not surprise us. The Government experts tell us that the *Bacilli* that form or cause the foul brood, and those that produce the black brood, are certainly the same, which makes the other assertion certainly true. They can hardly be mistaken, as they have gone over the ground the second time, and their position as scientists makes their authority absolute.

We see, then, that the methods of destroying the two are of course the same, and the practical bearing of their discovery is close in line with the practice of bee-keepers, as the method of control of both forms of the disease have been known to be the same for a long time. The reason is now obvious, as the disease is the same, and is caused by the same germ, of course we should expect it in both cases to succumb to the same remedy.

DESIRABLE LAWS FOR BEE-KEEPERS.

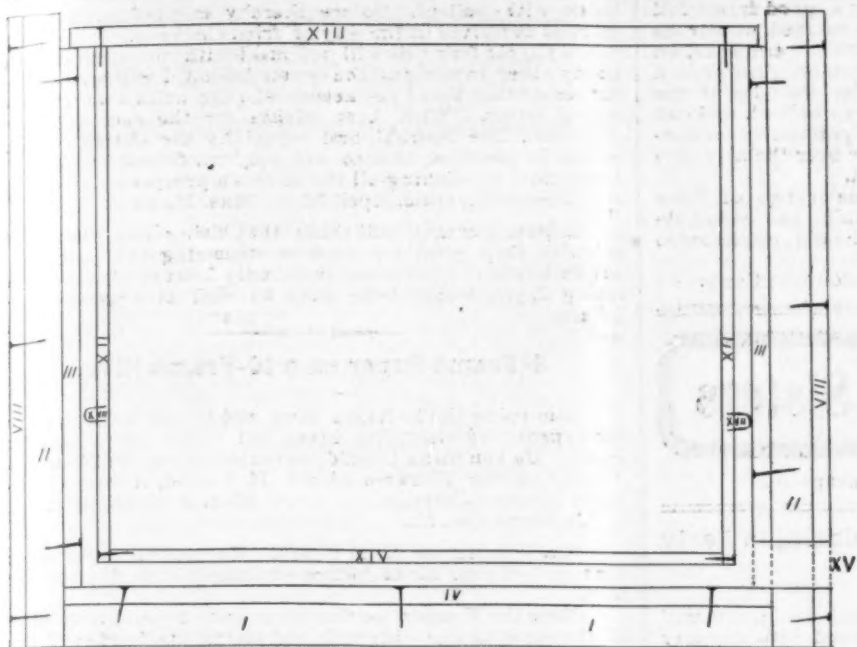
Of course we are all glad that the Ohio Legislature has passed the desired foul brood law, and why not? What are our legislatures for except to meet the needs of the people in just such ways? I believe that the most of the legislators are desirous, yea, eager, to do that which will best serve the wishes and wants of their constituents. Of course they can not know the merits of any proposed measure, or at least of all the bills put before them. Either, then, we must employ a costly lobby when we wish legislation, or else we must have some way to make our needs and wishes known to those whom we choose to represent us. And this brings me to the point which I wish to urge before our readers at the present time.

If we could be fully organized, we could accomplish much in this line at any time when we wished help. It seems to me that all our rural industries—farming, gardening, fruit-growing, poultry-raising, and bee-culture, should be organized, and be ready to pull together in all good lines. We are working in California to bring this about. The fact that we are not all working in the same field need be no objection, as all such work is related. The fruit-man will be a better pomologist if he knows something of bees, their habits and work. The bee-keeper will do better if he knows the principles of orchard practice; and so all through the various industries of country life. If these organizations were general there could not be the unfortunate differences that often mar the peace of our country neighborhoods. Many subjects discussed at the club would concern all alike, and be of general interest.

In several places in our region, we have clubs in which all are interested, and in such there are no wars between bee-men and the fruit-growers. I addressed a club of that like the other evening where the attendance never falls below 100, and where the club influence is seen in all lines of work, and in all places in the community. They own a beautiful club-house, their own piano, a nucleus of a fine library, and the roads and places all show the effects of organization. To bring all up to the best methods of doing things, to secure the highest social status in the community, to secure fine, neat places, to have those best signs of progress in any community—first-class roads—and last, to secure the amount of legislative influence that our importance warrants, we must become fully and thoroughly organized. The very best use of clubs is to remove bickerings, jealousies in the community, and suspicion, which is the blackest demon in the way of that true spirit of generosity and good-will which is ever in the forefront of all that is best in the neighborhood.

The first law of any account passed in the California Legislature last winter was the "Foul Brood Law," and it passed with no opposition at all. This would not have been the case except for our many splendid clubs. Indeed, our clubs have extended their influence to Congress, and have influenced the National law-makers.

I hope all our readers will see to it that there is a good club in their neighborhoods—call them "Improvement Societies," if you please, and then make them true to the name. Get everybody interested, and enlighten all, in all matters that interest any in the place. There is nothing that is so desirable in any place—and all places, especially in the country districts, where there is now so much of isolation—as the fullest co-operation among all. This will come quickest with the strong club to push it and prepare people to work for it. The telephone is a strong enemy of isolation.



OBSERVATORY HIVE—LONGITUDINAL, VERTICAL SECTION, WITH FRAME IN PLACE.

tion, and, thanks to our club, we have one in our place, a local enterprise, which is up-to-date, cheap, very efficient. We have brought the rate from \$2.50 a month (the charge of the old Co.) to \$1.00, and still make money. This place had five 'phones in the old company, as against 60 now. Does this not score big for the club?

Los Angeles Co., Calif.



Directions for Making an Observatory Hive.

BY ALLEN LATHAM.

A CORRESPONDENT being interested in my article on the value of observatory hives, which appeared on page 53, has asked me to give directions through the American Bee Journal for making such a hive. He requested that I furnish photographs, but I have thought that little could be gotten from photographs; but, moreover, it is not easy to get good results photographing glass hives. Instead, I have drawn sections of the hive and so lettered the parts that one can easily reproduce such a hive after getting the materials together.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR AN OBSERVATORY HIVE.

- I. 1 piece, $\frac{3}{4}$ by 2 by a length $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches longer than the outside length of frame
- II. 2 pieces, $\frac{3}{4}$ by 2 by a length 2 more than the depth of frame, outside measure.
- III. 2 pieces, $\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ by a length $\frac{1}{2}$ more than the end-bar of frame, measured from the under surface of top-bar to the under surface of bottom-bar. (The length of these can vary, they regulating the space below the frame.)
- IV. 1 piece, $\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ by a length equal to that of I.
- V. 2 pieces, $\frac{3}{4}$ by $\frac{3}{4}$ by a length $1\frac{1}{4}$ more than that of I.
- VI. 2 pieces, $\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ by a length equal to that of V.
- VII. 4 pieces, $\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ by a length 2 less than that of II.
- VIII. 2 pieces, $\frac{3}{4}$ by $2\frac{3}{4}$ by a length equal to that of II.
- X. 2 sheets of glass, about $\frac{1}{8}$ thick, length equal to that of I, width $\frac{3}{4}$ less than length of II.

(All dimensions are in inches, and fractions of an inch.)

Additional materials are two dozen $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch brass screws, and a few nails of assorted sizes. A frame of brood and honey with a few bees and queen, or a frame of young brood with many bees and no queen, or a small swarm with empty frame. A board about 6 inches wide, of a length to be set in a window beneath the sash. Through this board is a hole to correspond with the entrance of the hive, and at such a distance from the lower edge of the board as to let the hive rest on the window-sill. Two large screws are

to be put through this board from the outside to secure the hive. The board itself is firmly fastened to the window-frame.

The other letters in the diagrams are explained as follows:

- XI. is the comb.
- XII. the end-bars.
- XIII. the top-bar.
- XIV. the bottom-bar.
- XV. the entrance.
- XVI. nails to hold bottom of frame and keep it from swinging.
- XVII. end staples.

The diagrams are drawn to a scale, for a frame $13\frac{1}{2}$ long by $11\frac{1}{2}$ deep, outside measure. The table of materials above has been compiled for any size of frame, allowing $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch below the frame, $\frac{3}{8}$ at the ends, and a bee-space above.

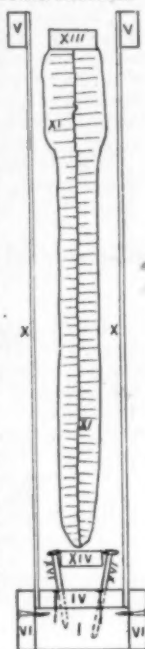
After getting the materials together, nail the two pieces marked II to the ends of I. IV is then nailed to one I, allowing the space at each edge for the thickness of glass. Then the pieces marked III are nailed in place, looking out to nail so as to leave a place to bore the entrance-hole. As glass varies in thickness, it is well at this point to fit each side to its sheet of glass. Then the nails are driven in which secure the bottom of the frame (XVI). The sheets of glass are put in place, and V, VI, and VII screwed in place. See that the glass is just flush with I and II, or you may crack it. No putty is used, for it may be desirable to remove the glass for cleansing, or to replace a broken pane. Then pieces marked VIII are nailed in place. Finally the hole, an inch in diameter, is bored for the entrance. It should be flush with the bottom of the hive.

The bees and frame are best put into the hive out-of-doors, after the hive has been fitted to its place in the window. After the bees are in, a slip of paper is put over the entrance, the hive is carried to its place, adjusted, the paper removed, and the screws put in. It may be well to stop up the entrance in the board before putting in the screws. (This last advice is for beginners.) The entrance is freed, the window closed, and all is O.K.

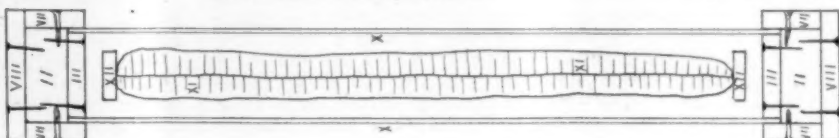
The hive had best be put in a north window, unless there is an east or south window permanently sheltered from the sunshine. If the hive is placed in a south window without some fixed shade, with the idea in mind of providing a movable shade, the day will surely come when some one will forget to put the shade in place, and when next visited the hive will be found converted into a solar wax-extractor. Yet there is a great disadvantage in the north window, for the reason that our coldest winds come from that quarter. Their effect can be partly overcome by stopping well the cracks in the window and cutting down the entrance temporarily. If one has a suitable window with a milder exposure I think that the bees might be better off. Whatever exposure is chosen the window should be above the ground floor on account of passers-by.

The correspondent also wishes hints for the care of such a hive. Now, experience is a good teacher for an observing person, and no person ought to keep bees unless he is observing. I will simply say that the observatory-hive colony is in an abnormal state, and will require special attention. It will need to be fed through all the time that

VERTICAL CROSS-SECTION.



LONGITUDINAL CROSS-SECTION.



honey is not flowing, and should have a good frame full when winter comes on. The best way to feed, as far as I know, is to have a shelf about flush with the entrance, on which a tumbler of feed inverted on a piece of glass or in a shallow dish can be set. Put a pin under the edge of the tumbler for air-vent. This is a safe way to feed, and can be practiced at any hour of the day with practically no danger from robber-bees. It is well to throw over the hive several thicknesses of cloth to conserve heat.

No bee-keeper should be without one or two of these hives. He will learn many things which he has never observed, and will find undoubtedly that he did not know so much about bees as he thought he did.

New London Co., Conn.

Our Bee-Keeping Sisters

Conducted by EMMA M. WILSON, Marengo, Ill.

From Cold to Hot—Queenless Colonies in Early Spring.

A week ago the complaint was, "Such cold weather." Well, this week we have suddenly jumped into summer weather, the thermometer standing at 70 and 80 degrees, and one day at 85 degrees. That weather clerk is really trying to make up. Dandelions are blooming freely, and plum blossoms are out.

For some reason—whether on account of the late, cold spring or the unusually severe winter—there seems to be, judging from reports, an unusual number of queenless colonies this spring. Now the question is, What is best to do with these colonies? Is it best to let them rear a queen?

Last spring we had two queenless colonies that were remarkably strong. I suspect that they had had an accession of bees that did not belong to them, which probably accounted for their being queenless. They were such strong colonies that I could not bear to have them broken up, so plead their cause and begged that they be supplied with combs of young brood or eggs from time to time to keep up their strength, and allowed to rear a queen. In both cases the queens reared so early were poor, worthless affairs, and the colonies had to be requeened later.

It would have been much better had those bees been taken to strengthen up weaker colonies, queenless bees being the best kind of material for that purpose, as they will mostly stay where they are put, and not endanger the life of the queen even if the colony is very weak to which they are given; and sometimes a good queen may be saved by giving bees to a very weak colony.

I have had my lesson, and am convinced that there is no use trying to rear *good queens* too early in the season.

Small Loss in Wintering—Chickens as Drone-Catchers.

DEAR MISS WILSON:—I feel like entering the circle again, and after making my best bow tell you that after being confined to my room for almost three months I am able once more to visit my bee-yard. I find all the colonies, with the exception of 2, just as busy as they can be carrying in pollen, while the young bees out playing are making almost as much noise as during the swarming season.

I rapped on the 2 hives where no bees were seen going or coming, and as there was no response I judge they are all dead. But if those 2 colonies, out of 34, will cover my loss I will think they wintered remarkably well.

I have enjoyed reading Dr. Miller's "Forty Years Among the Bees" while I was confined to the house, and I hope I will soon be able to look after the wants of mine.

I would to say to Sister Wainwright, she would better go slow with her late invention, a "drone-catching cage," for if she had watched pretty closely she would find that those chicks were not very choice whether it was a drone or a worker bee they enjoyed as a morsel, for we had the same experience in our own bee-yard, and had to kill off all those chicks that watched the hive-entrances (after satisfying ourselves they were picking up bees that were heavily

laden with pollen). So we thereby enjoyed some sweet morsels ourselves in the way of fried chickens.

Well, for fear this will not meet with the same success as my other in missing the waste-basket, I will give space for some other sister bee-keeper who can write a more interesting letter. With best wishes for the success of the American Bee Journal, and especially the sisters' corner, which is presided over so nobly by our faithful "Queen," I will close by wishing all the sisters a prosperous year.

Adams Co., Ohio, April 25. MRS. MARY A. RAY.

Indeed, you may well think that losing only 2 out of 34 colonies very good for outdoor wintering the past very severe winter. If you had saved only 2 out of 34 instead of losing 2, you would have done as well as a good many others.

8-Frame Super on a 10-Frame Hive.

I am using the 10-frame hive and do not want to go to the expense of changing hives, but would like a smaller super. Do you think I could conveniently use the 24-section T super on the 10-frame hive? If I could, it would be so much lighter to handle.

MRS. H. C. HOLMES.

Jefferson Co., Ill.

Yes, you can use them nicely. We used them for some time on 10-frame hives before we changed to the 8-frame hive.

Place the T super on the hive just so the outside edge of the super at one side will rest on the inside edge of the hive (not flush with the outside edge), then there will be a small space on the other side of the super which can be easily covered by laying on a small strip of wood, such as a piece of lath.

Last Year's Experience with Bees.

As I see no report from any neighboring bee-keepers from this part of the State, I will give a brief sketch of what the bees did for me during the spring and summer of 1903.

I had 25 colonies, spring count, in good condition, which gave me a surplus of 3250 pounds of salable honey, all of which sold for 10 to 12½ cents per pound. And I increased, by natural swarming, to 53 colonies, all in good shape for winter, and with plenty of honey to winter on.

From white clover we got our honey, which was as good as the best honey season we have ever had in this locality. The white clover seems all right this spring; it is starting up about the same as last spring, according to the season, which is about two weeks later than the average. The past winter has been a hard one on the bees wintered on the summer stands.

So far the weather has been very unfavorable for the bees, as it had been freezing every two or three nights until April 20. Consequently colonies that have come through so far are very weak compared with other seasons at this time of year.

I lost some colonies, and had some weak ones which I united, and have at present 40 in fairly good condition out of the 53 of last fall. This is the first winter loss I have had for several years.

Neighbors, let us hear from you through the good old Bee Journal. I am not much of a writer, and this may not be very interesting, but I am a good reader, and I enjoy reading reports from all.

LUNA ELMORE.

Jefferson Co., Iowa, April 25.

"The Hum of the Bees in the Apple-Tree Bloom" is the name of the finest bee-keeper's song—words by Hon. Eugene Secor and music by Dr. C. C. Miller. This is thought by some to be the best bee-song yet written by Mr. Secor and Dr. Miller. It is, indeed, a "hummer." We can furnish a single copy of it postpaid, for 10 cents, or 3 copies for 25 cents. Or, we will mail a half-dozen copies of it for sending us one new yearly subscription to the American Bee Journal at \$1.00.

Please send us Names of Bee-Keepers who do not now get the American Bee Journal, and we will send them sample copies. Then you can very likely afterward get them subscriptions, for which work we offer valuable premiums in nearly every number of this journal. You can aid much by sending in the names and addresses when writing us on other matters.

Dr. Miller's Answers

Send Questions either to the office of the American Bee Journal, or to Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.

Hop Honey—Adulterated Honey.

1. If bees are kept near a field of hops would the honey produced in a yard so located be liable to have a bitterish taste?

2. If A produces pure extracted honey, marks it with his own name and guaranty, sells the same to a second party who adulterates it, puts it back into the same cans containing the producer's label, and sells it to a third party, who comes back to the second party, and he, to clear himself, goes after the first party, what protection, if any, would the producer have against being prosecuted? OREGON.

ANSWERS.—1. I don't know. The nectar is likely to be somewhat after the character of the plant from which it is obtained, but for all that the hop nectar may not be bitter. Can any one tell us about hop honey?

2. The producer could hardly be convicted without clear proof that the honey had not been tampered with.

Brood-Combs Built Crosswise.

I have 2 good, strong colonies in which the combs in the brood-frames are so badly crossed it is impossible to get them out so as to examine them. They are well filled with capped brood and sealed honey—are very heavy—and it appears as if the bees would swarm soon. How can I best manage them to get the combs so I can handle them? MISSOURI.

ANSWER.—Turn the hive upside down. With a long knife and saw, cut away the attachments from the sides of the hive, then lift the hive off the combs. That will give you a fair chance to get at the combs, and it is just possible that by cutting away a little here and there you may be able to crowd the combs into place so they will be easily movable. At the worst, you can cut them all out and fasten into the frames as in transferring. It will be perhaps better for you to wait till three weeks after the prime swarm, when there will be no brood in the way. Of course, the bees must be smoked or drummed out of the way in order to allow you to operate.

Cottonwood and Bay-Tree—Swarms Uniting.

1. What is the honey-value of cotton-wood, also the bay-tree? The latter seems to be a species of magnolia, and blooms here in June.

2. Did you ever have an experience like this? On April 28 I had an after-swarm come out, and about the time I had gotten them in the hive a prime swarm from another hive came out and went in with them; as the latter went in another prime swarm issued from another hive and went in on top of the other two. On the morning of the 29th I found one dead queen in front of the hive, and about noon of the same day one of the largest swarms I ever saw came out of the tri-hive, leaving the original after-swarm apparently as they were in the hive at first. Both the large and the small swarms are doing nicely. Natural separation, isn't it? MISSISSIPPI.

ANSWERS.—1. I don't know; I've always supposed that cotton-wood was of little value unless for pollen. If the bay-tree is of the magnolia sort, it ought to be good.

2. No, that was not at all a common occurrence. Are you sure you had your after-swarm remaining with the young queen, and that one of the laying queens was not left in the hive?

An Experience with Bees—Light-Weight Sections.

1. I had 2 colonies of bees, and one I thought was queenless, as it was very weak in bees and did not seem to do so well as my other one, which was full of bees. So into the queenless one (No. 1) I introduced an Italian queen on April 30. Sunday, May 1, I went to church and some one told me there that my bees were swarming. I went home and found that a large cluster of bees had alighted in an apiary right across the road, and they said they came from my apiary. The bees had alighted on the corner of a hive, and after a while they started to go into a hive where there were only a few bees without a queen. After searching around we found my Italian queen, and shortly after another queen which was just about dead, and in fact the Italian did not seem to be well. Now there were more bees in that "swarm" than there were in the hive the queen had been put into; and, another thing, the bees were very yellow, such as were in my other hive (No. 2). I examined No. 2 which had previously been very strong and found scarcely any bees. All the bees were apparently still in No. 1. Now how do you solve this problem?

Now I suppose I have two queenless colonies. The other fellow says I can have the bees that went into his queenless hive, but may be they are now queenless, because when we released the Italian queen from the bees which were balling her we put her in the hive with the rest of the bees, but she seems as if she would not live long. Anyway, let me hear your verdict.

2. I use 1½ sections, and am going to use plain separators, which rest close to the edge of the sections. Will this produce light-weight sections? ONTARIO.

ANSWERS.—1. At this distance it is not easy to make a sure guess, but it looks as if No. 1 was not in the circus at all; No. 2 having swarmed out and gone across the way. It is quite possible that your neighbor's supposed queenless colony was not queenless after all, and that its queen was killed by the intruding swarm, the Italian queen being the queen of No. 2.

2. If your sections are 4¼x1½ they will be light-weight, or less than a pound. If by saying that separators "rest close to the edge of the sections" you mean that the separators are as wide as the full depth of the sections, that will probably be the same in result as if the separators were a little narrower. But are you sure it will leave sufficient passage (1-6 inch or more) for the passage of the bees?

"Canucks" and the National—Requeening Weak Queenless Colonies—Extent of Increase.

1. Would it be any benefit to me, a "Canuck," to join the National Bee-Keepers' Association?

2. I have a colony of bees which is very weak in bees, and queenless. Would it be safe to let them alone until settled warm weather in May, before requeening, or would I better requeen now? Can it be done?

3. I lost nearly all of my bees the past winter, so I will have to buy some, but I am not sure about what number to build up to. About 2 miles east of here is an apiary of 30 colonies, 2 miles west about 70 colonies, across the road about 25 colonies, and elsewhere in the village about 12 colonies. Now how deep do you think I would better dive in? The bees get honey mostly from white clover and catnip. All the territory from northwest to northeast is unoccupied for miles. Do you think I could profitably build up to 100 colonies? ONTARIO.

ANSWERS.—1. The benefits of membership extend to Canada, and a number of good "Canucks" belong. By all means identify yourself with the organization.

2. Don't do either; unite them with another colony now. It will be hard for you to believe that's the best thing, but five years from now you'll be sure of it—yes, five months from now, if you try to keep that colony going.

3. Those 37 colonies in the village count the same as if they were yours, and it's doubtful if 137 colonies will find enough to do in that spot. But it's a very hard thing to tell anything about it for certain.

Carrying Out Young Bees—When to Put on Supers—Swarming—Dividing Colonies.

1. I have noticed for several days that the bees in 2 of my hives have been carrying out young bees and dropping them on the ground in front of the hives. What is the cause of this? Have they not enough room to store honey in, or do robber-bees do it?

2. Should I put on supers, or is it too early yet?

3. I saw several drones a day or two ago. How long after the first drones hatch will the colony send out a swarm? or can one tell by this?

4. When is the best time to divide colonies? ILLINOIS.

ANSWERS.—1. No, it is not because the hive is crowded with honey. In that case the queen would not have room to lay, but the brood would not be carried out. The reverse may be the case if much brood is carried out—starvation. If only a few larvae are carried out, it may be work of wax-worms.

2. In your region white clover is probably the first source of surplus, so don't put on supers till clover is in bloom.

3. You can't tell anything about the drones.

4. About the time bees swarm naturally, which will likely be after white clover is fairly under way.

Best Method of Introducing Queens.

What, in your judgment, and with your experience, is the best method of introducing queens? MARYLAND.

ANSWER.—That's a rather tough one, when there are so many ways, and occasional failures will come with almost any of them. For introducing queens of ordinary value, the usual plan of putting her in a provisioned cage answers well; the bees eating out the candy to liberate the queen. A short time ago E. F. Atwater sent me a sample of the Chantry cage, and although I've had no opportunity to try it, I should expect it to be safer than the usual cage. Over the candy in the usual passage is a bit of excluder zinc, which allows the bees to eat their way into the cage, still keeping the queen a prisoner there. For some reason, bees will be kind to a queen when in a cage, while they would ball her if out of it. Another and much longer passage, without any zinc over it, allows the bees to eat out the candy and liberate the queen a day or so after making her acquaintance in the cage.

But if you want to make a sure thing of a valuable queen, take several frames of sealed brood with young bees just emerging—don't take a single bee with this brood unless it be babies just out of the cell—put the queen in a hive on these combs, fastening all bee-tight, and keep in a warm place for four or five days, and then you will have a colony ready to put on its stand with not the slightest danger to the queen.

FROM MANY FIELDS

Bees Wintered in the Cellar.

I put 100 colonies of bees in the cellar Nov. 12, 1903, and they are there yet; they have not had a peep of daylight since. They seem to be in good condition, and I think they can stand it for 10 days more, at least—the way the weather looks they will have to. The thermometer registered 4 degrees below zero April 18. JOHN COX.

Chippewa Co., Wis., April 18.

Hatching Eggs Over Bees.

I tried four hen's eggs over bees the other day. I chose a powerful colony and fed them so that they were hot. The hive was packed with others in a case in ground-cork. A thick cushion was over the eggs. They had every advantage. After the end of a week I broke them and found that the germ had made progress corresponding to about 48 to 60 hours under a hen. At that rate, had the eggs been left to hatch (?), they might have furnished chickens in about seven weeks. One egg showed just a touch of red, the little embryo being about $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch long.

Yet I have known chickens to be hatched in bee-hives. I knew a man in my boyhood who did it. At that time he was through with bees, as his had all died, and he found the hives very convenient for hens'-nests.

As far as I know, I lost only 2 colonies out of 38, in out-door wintering. Those two starved.

The American Bee Journal is better than ever. ALLEN LATHAM.
New London Co., Conn., May 2.

A Long Winter.

I put 19 colonies in winter quarters, and lost 6. This was a very long winter, and last summer was a poor one for bees—it rained all the time. I hope we will do better this year. I am a great friend of the bees and would not be without them. A. A. GOETSCH.

Dodge Co., Wis., April 25.

Key Remedy for Bee-Stings.

I wish to tell of a simple but very effective remedy for stings of any kind. When stung, pull or rub out the sting, then place the bore of a key exactly central over the spot and bear down hard. After, say 30 seconds, take off the key, which has left a deep ring around the wound, and a tiny drop of yellowish fluid standing over the wound; and this is the end of it. I wish every one who gets stung knew of this and would try it. P. T. LEMASTER.
Spartanburg Co., S. C., April 15.

Heavy Loss in Wintering.

The bee-keepers in this part of the country experienced quite a heavy loss with bees—about 75 percent. My loss so far is 30 percent. There is one foot of snow on the ground at this date. C. H. WALE.
Ontario, Canada, April 18.

Bee-Keeping in Missouri.

I have only 39 colonies yet, but intend to double that number in the near future. I don't think a better country could be found for the bee-industry than southwestern Missouri. Our bees are now on the summer stands. We have had snow only two days the past winter, and the bees are all right, and are busy taking in pollen. They commenced to do work as early as the last of February. Bees have shown great activity all winter, and not a week has passed but what they have made use of their wings.

I think we have a favorable spring for bees, and I intend to gain all the information I can from the American Bee Journal, and to devote a great deal of time to the work. Of course, a



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great deal of time is required in running a farm of 80 acres, and as I am a watch-maker by trade I will not have as much time with the bees as I would like to have. At present I am busy making hives.

I don't think that we can all employ the same methods with bees in all localities, but must often use our own judgment, and also try to study out new ideas, and apply our methods according to the season. It is with bee-men as with farmers, some raise 22 bushels of wheat to the acre, while others raise only 7; and some bee-men can increase their colonies very fast, and make a good profit from honey, while others do nothing.

As I have read with so much interest, of their different ways of working bees, I feel it my duty to all to make mention of my own experience.

I make hives 2 story out of 10-inch lumber, and have the supers large enough to hold 56 pound-sections. I have the sections open on four sides, and insert the strips of foundation in the center. When all have been inserted, I sprinkle the super thoroughly, as it seems to give great satisfaction to the bees. I don't use full sheets of foundation any more, as I did some years ago. I never place the hives under shade trees, as I used to do, but keep them in the open, no matter how hot the July sun may be, but rather put up a small shed for each hive a little larger than the hive.

I am feeding three colonies at present with candy and syrup, but I don't feed more than I have to, as they will be sure to store it in the super, and make out of it what is called "factory-made" honey, and, of course, my customers would then accuse me of selling home-made honey. A neighbor, who sells quite a lot of honey every year, had a barrel of honey last year which granulated. If that ever occurs again, just turn the barrel upside down and the honey will turn to liquid again in about two weeks. A. G. ERICKSON.

Barry Co., Mo.

The "Parson" Tells How.

I would like to say for the benefit of some of the people who have been trying to hatch chicks in bee-hives, that they do not go at it right. They should fill the hive about $\frac{3}{4}$ full of straw, chaff or dirt, make a nice comfortable nest for the eggs, and, last but not least, place on top of the eggs a nice, quiet, broody hen!

I prefer an 8-frame hive, but a 10-frame will answer fully as well. A. S. PARSON.

Otero Co., Colo.

Bees Wintered Well.

My bees have wintered well. I put 100 colonies into winter quarters, and they are all living, up to date, and appear to be strong. The prospect here is not very good for a crop of clover honey this year, for so much of it has frozen out during the winter. My crop of honey last season was very good, and I hope for a good one this year.

Here is success to the American Bee Journal. Long may it live! P. McDOWELL.

Mason Co., Ky., April 12.

Poor Prospects in Arizona.

The prospects for a honey crop are very poor in this part of the world. We have had $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch of rain since last September, and unless we have some good rains soon, the alfalfa in the Salt River Valley will be very light, if not a failure. Wm. ROHRIG.

Maricopa Co., Ariz., March 28.

Heavy Losses in Wintering.

The bees have had some good flights this month, but this morning the thermometer is away below freezing, and a foot of snow on the ground. There was a great loss of bees last winter. I do not think there are more than $\frac{1}{2}$ alive all through Ontario. I can't complain, though, as I lost only 13 colonies out of 15!

I suppose this is not the proper place to make inquiries, but here goes for one question: There are about 6 bee-keepers near here; one $\frac{1}{2}$ miles east has about 30 colonies, one

$\frac{1}{2}$ miles west has about 60 colonies, one $\frac{1}{4}$ miles west has about 10 colonies. One man across the road with 20 colonies, and the other two in the village, with about 10 colonies between them. Is there any show for me? and to what extent could I safely build up?

HARRY SMITH.

Ontario, Canada, April 16.

[See Dr. Miller's answer to "Ontario," on another page.—EDITOR.]

Wintered Well—Prospects Good.

We have had a fine winter for bees in this part of the country, and they have come through in excellent condition. I visited my ranch yesterday, and found every colony alive, and in the pollen business.

White clover is in good condition, which gives us a good prospect for an average crop of honey. The early fruit-bloom will soon be out. Enough peach-buds are alive to give a fair crop. A. A. BALDWIN.

Jackson Co., Mo., April 5.

Unfinished Sections.

I am so pleased with what Mr. E. E. Hasty says about removing unfinished sections to be finished somewhere else, that I want to second all he says on page 297. And add, that those bees so thrown out of the job on which their hearts are set to finish will not go immediately at any other job, and so there is loss of time, and a certain amount of sulking. I believe that the necessary amount of smoke and handling to remove sections, and to give some other work, disconcerts and confuses the bees and hinders work not a little. Better give dividers to hold lots of bees outside of the outside sections, and let each colony uninterruptedly finish its own work. Yes, generally, I reckon, it's better to leave all on until the end of the season. Of one thing there can be no two opinions, and that is, you will save yourself a great deal of bother by so doing.

Ontario, Canada, April 25. S. T. PETTIT.

A Long Confinement.

In regard to long confinement, I had two colonies which did not take a general flight for 130 days—from about the middle of November to March 24. They both wintered finely, not specking the hives at all. While other bees were flying March 2, they refused to break cluster.

We are having a fine warm spell here, and bees are pushing right along. They are 10 days behind last year, though.

ALLEN LATHAM.

New London Co., Conn., May 4.

Some Minnesota Bee-Notes.

The most of the bees about here were wintered in the cellar. About all of those that were left out-doors have died. Those in the cellar wintered well.

I put 38 colonies in the cellar in November. Some of them were very light when put in, and I was doubtful about their wintering. One I gave some comb honey in the cellar. The others I did not feed.

I finished taking them from the cellar April 10, and all came out alive except one which died of starvation.

My bees are all in 10-frame Langstroth hives, and as soon as the weather would permit I looked them over and took a frame or two of honey from the colonies that had more than necessary, and gave them to those that needed it.

This spring is very cold and backward, and there has not been much time that the bees could fly until this week.

I have just finished examining each colony, and find they all have brood, so they have queens. I found some of the queens and clipped them. Those that were not already clipped. I have a clipping trick that I used some last year, but it is too much bother. When I find the queen I lay the comb down on top of the hive and carefully pick up the queen near her head, with the thumb and finger of my left hand, and with my jack-knife in the other hand place the point of the small blade under

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2 frame Nuclei (no queen).....	2.50	14.00	25.00

Nuclei will be ready to ship the latter part of May or 1st of June. When Queens are wanted with Nuclei add price of any Queen wanted. We guarantee safe arrival of all Queens and Nuclei. Our Breeders may be returned after 30 days if satisfaction is not given. Cash must come with all orders. Orders are booked and filled in rotation.

Mr. Gus. Picaman, of Litchfield, Ill., in a letter of Aug. 3, 1903, says: "Send me two untested honey-queens. The one I bought of you two years ago is all right. There are no better."

Mr. Frank D. Gunderson, of Oconomowoc, Wis., says in a letter dated August 1, 1903: "I like your queens the best of any that I have ever had." This man placed an order last August for 24 Nuclei to be delivered this spring. Address all orders to

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one of her wings and press my thumb down upon it. The work is done in much less time, than it takes to tell it.

I find nothing better than a common screw-driver with which to loosen covers, frames, etc.

I made a comb-carrier with a tight cover in which I place the combs when taken from the strong to the weak, also to carry extracting-combs; and with a strip of leather I make some places on one end to hold a screw-driver, case-knife, whiskbroom, etc., and find it very convenient.

The last two or three days the bees have been gathering considerable pollen and some honey, mostly from soft maple, I think.

J. RIDLEY.

Wright Co., Minn., April 28.

Colony Absconded.

My bees wintered splendidly. One colony absconded, and left some 15 or 20 pounds of honey. The queen was a fine one, and left clean combs and fine white honey, but no sign of any brood. There were about 3 pints of bees. They swarmed out and settled. I put them in a hive and they came out and left for parts unknown.

C. A. MANGUS.

Blair Co., Pa., April 28.

Wintered in Bad Shape.

I took the bees out April 23; they were in bad shape, having spotted the hives badly, but I think they will come out all right if the weather is favorable from now on. To-day they are busy carrying in pollen.

C. H. HARLAN.

Kanabec Co., Minn., April 28.

Hiving Swarms—Winter Loss.

I read a good many things in the Bee Journal that are worth a good deal to me, so I feel as if I ought to give a small kink back. I hived a number of swarms last season, and at night found the hives empty. One swarm I watched to see go in, and saw 5 queens, so I put on an entrance-guard, tacked it tight, and that was the only swarm I saved that day out of 8.

It rained so much that I did not get half a crop last season; we had a good fall flow, so the bees had plenty to live on.

The winter loss was more than usual.

C. G. ASCHA.

Berkshire Co., Mass., April 30.

Cold Winter—Wintered Well.

My bees wintered well. I lost 8 colonies out of 131, wintered outside in chaff-hives. They average almost all strong in bees. We had a very cold winter and plenty of snow. They had a few cleansing flights. I looked them over.

H. BEHRENS.

Ozaukee Co., Wis., April 1.

Severe Snow-Storm in April.

This country was visited by one of the most severe snow-storms imaginable, lasting fully 24 hours, and the snow piled up in my beeyard to the extent of 3 feet in some places, whole rows of hives were completely covered.

I am now starting out with a scoop-shovel to relieve the bees from their imprisonment. The storm started April 14 and lasted to April 15.

I expect a heavy loss in bees, and they have been confined fully 5½ months to the cellar, and consequently many of them are short of stores by this time, with hardly any chance to help them any on account of the severe weather.

A. C. F. BARTZ.

Chippewa Co., Wis., April 16.

Weak Colonies in the Spring.

I want to caution some of the amateurs in the East who, I know, will have many little, weak colonies this spring, and who will be anxious to help them build up, and many will make the common mistake of giving frames of brood to the little, weak ones.

First, it is very hard to find a frame of brood that is hatching in a strong colony that will

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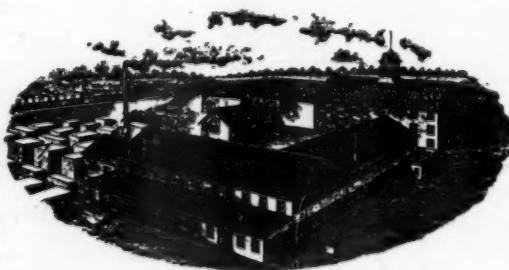
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fit the brood-nest of a weak colony, and a novice is liable to lose some very valuable brood by such a practice.

In the early spring, when all the bees are anxious to get some brood hatched out, it is much better to tuck the little ones up snugly and abandon them to their fate until such time as the large, strong colonies have plenty of hatching bees; and then instead of giving the little colony more brood to care for, just take a comb from say 2 strong colonies, that have plenty of hatching bees, jar the frames, or give a gentle shake to cause the old bees to take flight, and then with a feather or suitable brush, brush the young bees into the weak colony, leaving its brood-nest intact, and return the combs of unhatched brood and eggs to the colony from which they were taken.

Then see how the little colony will spread its own self under the stimulus of a quart, or even less, of young bees, and they will put the brood where they can better care for it than it is possible to give it to them. The trouble is, there is a much smaller percent of the brood hatching than the novice thinks there is, and a cool night leaves it sticking out of the cluster and it is lost.

I have seen much brood lost in this way, and not all among novices, either.

Do we all of us, always, do as well as we know? M. A. GILL.
Boulder Co., Colo., April 21.

Wintered All Right—Cold Spring.

I winter my bees out-doors, have only 7 colonies, and they have wintered all right so far. They have had only two good flights, and the last day they were carrying in pollen. It has been a cold spring here so far. We live on the shore of the St. Lawrence River, and the ice has not gone out yet, and it makes it cold. I use leaves for packing, and like them very well. There are not many bees kept around here.

The "Old Reliable" is all right, and I don't want to be without it as long as I keep bees.

F. WEBSTER.

Jefferson Co., N. Y., April 18.

None Lost in Wintering.

We took our bees out of the cellar April 3, as it was the first nice day we had for a long time. We have not lost a colony this winter. We had 92 colonies outside which were packed in chaff, and 48 in the cellar, which came out all right. We kept the temperature down to about 45 degrees all the time.

The weather is unfavorable almost all of the time. We have 6 cloudy days to 1 clear day in a week. If it does not change soon we may lose some of our colonies, too.

Last year was not a very good one, but we hope that this year will be better.

FRED BANKER.

Brown Co., Minn., April 15.

Wintering Bees—Feeding Bees.

This has been the hardest winter on bees that I have ever seen, and almost all of the bees that were left on the summer stands here are dead. There was not a day from Nov. 15 to April 1 that bees could fly in safety. I never try to winter my bees out-of-doors, as it is more work to pack and protect them properly on the summer stands than it is to carry them in; and then, if you should need to feed them it can be done with more ease and comfort in the cellar.

It sometimes makes me smile when reading the Journal, of some writer being frightened because his bees have not had a flight for 3 or 4 weeks. Why, bless you, my bees did not have a flight for almost 5 months! For example, I put them into the cellar Nov. 19, 1903, and put them out April 5, 1904, and they came through all right, and they were wintered on sugar fed to them in the fall, with a cake of sugar put on top of the frames this winter. So don't be afraid to feed sugar if you should lack honey. There were some pieces of sugar-cakes they did not use, so I melted it to-day and fed it that way.

Right here I will tell of a feeder which is nice to use at this season of the year. Take a small drinking fountain that will hold per-

This Lightning Lice Killing Machine



kills all lice and mites. No injury to birds or fowls. Handles any fowl, smallest chick to largest gobbler. Made in three sizes. Pays for itself first season. Also Lightning Lice Killing Powder, Poultry Lice, Lice Murder, etc. We secure special low express rates. Catalog mailed free. Write for it. CHARLES SCHILD, Ionia, Mich.

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Raising Evergreens from Seed.

The method employed in raising evergreens from seed has been and is still considered a trade secret by most nurserymen. However, we are able to present our readers the following valuable article from the veteran evergreen-grower, Mr. Charles F. Gardner, of Osage, Iowa, who was for three years honored with the presidency of the Iowa State Horticultural Society, and who has had over 40 years' active experience in the work of growing evergreens from seed. Mr. Gardner says: "First select a small, well-drained spot in the garden, and prepare the seed-bed by spading thoroughly, and then rake the surface until the soil is pulverized as finely as possible to get it. On this freshly-made seed-bed scatter the seed, allowing about 25 seeds to the square inch of ground. Press the seed into the earth with a garden-roller, or back of the spade, and then immediately cover with a very light coat of sand. As soon as planted a partial shade must be made so that the rays

of the sun will be broken before reaching the bed. The best way to make this shade is to make a lath box two feet high, and large enough in other ways to cover over the bed nicely. Leave space of 1½ inches between the lath, and this will give the right amount of shade, and will also keep chickens, etc., from scratching into the bed. Leave one side of the box open, and place the open side down over the bed. The seed will germinate in from five to seven days; the first thing being noticeable will be the seed itself, which comes up through the sand on a sturdy little stem. In a few days the seed-shell drops off, and the little tree unfolds its first branches. Keep all grass and weeds from the little trees, and in the fall lightly mulch with clean, dry straw or hay. The shade must be left over the bed until the trees are two years old, at which age they can be transplanted into rows in the garden."

One of the first nurseries in the West to grow evergreens from seed was the Gardner Nursery Co., Osage, Iowa, who grow them by the million each year. If you are a lover of evergreens, and wish to try growing them from seed, write to this company, mentioning this item, and they will send you a packet free, containing 100 seeds, by return mail.

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new one; and, also, the new subscriber must not be a member of the same family where the Bee Journal is already being taken.

We think we have made the foregoing sufficiently plain so that no error need be made. Our Premium Queens are too valuable to throw away—they must be earned in a legitimate way. They are worth working for.

We will book the orders as they come in and the Queens will be mailed in May or June. Will you have one or more?

If you cannot get a new subscriber, and want one of these Queens, we will send the American Bee Journal a year and the Queen—both for only \$1.50.

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We offer for sale, from our stock of bee-supplies, the following list, some of which is new, and the balance as good as new:

20 Wood-bound 10-frame Zinc Honey-Boards	15c each.
1080 New, Clean, Wired Extracting Combs (L. size)	15c each.
420 New L. Brood-Frames with full sheets wired foundation	10c each.
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1 "New Model" Solar Wax-Extractor (glass 26x60 in.)	8.00.
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1 10-inch Comb Foundation Mill	25.00.
100 New L. 10 fr. Dovetailed Hives (each consisting of a Body, Cover and Bottom-Board—all mailed)	95c each.

If you order Combs and Hives, the Combs can be put right into the hives and shipped in that way. All the above can be shipped promptly, so long as they last. First come, first served. What do YOU want out of the lot? or do you want it all? (No order filled for less than \$5.00 from the above list.) Also BEES AND QUEENS, and Stanley Queen Incubator. Send for free Circular.

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DANIEL WURTH,

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haps a quart—the same as you would use for small chicks in a brooder; put the feed in when quite warm and set it over the brood-nest on the frames, then put an empty super on, and cover the feeder up with something warm; then put on the hive-cover, and it will have to be a pretty cold day to stop the bees from taking the feed. This is a good way to feed bees in a small way, for there is no leaking or chance for robbing.

CHAS. W. CILLEY.

Merrimack Co., N. H.

Not Wintered Well.

Bees have not wintered very well here. The winter was long and severe. Bees were confined without a flight for about 21 weeks. Bees kept out-of-doors were confined about 18 weeks. We had a snow-storm last night, and the ground was covered this morning; in some places the snow is piled up from 2 to 3 feet deep, but it is disappearing. I hope for a good season after this. Clover looks well.

CHAS. B. ALLEN.

Oswego Co., N. Y., April 16.

Hard Winter for Bees.

The bees in this locality have had a hard time the past winter, and they are having a poor time of it yet. All the bees that were not protected are dead, and a good many that were protected. There is not much cellar-wintering here, but those that protect their bees put them into clamps packed with sawdust. Mine are in a clamp yet; it is too cold for them to fly, and we have had very few days that they could fly yet. We had a hard frost last night and the night before.

I think I will lose 20 percent of 136 colonies. And to all appearances the clover is nearly all killed—smothered by ice.

DANIEL STUART.

Ontario, Canada, April 14.

Wintered Fairly Well.

Bees have wintered fairly well—4 colonies dead out of 23. I put the bees out of the cellar April 4.

M. B. EWING.

DeKalb Co., Ill., April 14.

Bees Wintered Well.

Bees wintered in fine shape on the summer stands, with only a quilt protection over the frames, and the entrances reduced to $\frac{3}{8}$ x 2 inches. Bees carried in pollen Feb. 24. All had, and still have, an abundance of stores without feeding. My first swarm was on April 8.

D. NEILSON.

Cleburne Co., Ala., April 16.

Propolized Cloth for Bee-Mittens.

On page 280, Miss Emma Wilson gives a little talk about gloves for women bee-keepers. May I take the liberty to tell the sisters how I used to make them, though I seldom use any?

Take a piece of cambric and use it as a cloth on top of frames. Change its position once in a while, so that one side will all be covered with propolis. Make the glove or mitten with a sheath for the forefinger, and the remaining fingers can all go in another sheath. Make them long enough and big enough to go half way to the elbows.

Bees can sting through such a mitten, but they don't care to; the scent of the propolis seems to please and disarm them. Have the propolis outside. Better put on several cloths, for sometimes the bees pick them full of holes.

S. T. PETTIT.

Ontario, Canada.

Wintered All Right.

I think my bees have come through the winter all right, notwithstanding the cold, wet weather the last of March and nearly all through this month. I have lost only 1 colony out of 36 so far, and they are busy carrying in pollen to-day, and have been for 2 or 3 days. I winter bees on the summer stands, in single-wall hives, with a cushion over the

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17A5t

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W. D. Soper, R.D. 3, Jackson, Mich

18A1f

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frames filled with planing-mill shavings. I run out of shavings, so I filled part of the cushions with oats, and they seem to have done as well as the others.

White clover seems to have come through the winter all right, and is beginning to show up quite green. Fruit-trees are not in bloom yet; they are very backward. The bees are getting pollen from cottonwood and box-elder, which are the first trees to start.

I think I shall try for extracted honey this season, at least in part. J. M. LINSOTT.
Gage Co., Nebr., April 30.

CONVENTION NOTICES.

Illinois-Wisconsin.—The northern portions of the Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin Bee-Keepers' Associations will hold its spring meeting May 24, at 10 a.m., at the residence of J. W. Johnson, Davis, Ill. Farm joins town on north. All bee-keepers are cordially invited to attend. J. W. JOHNSON, Sec. and Treas.

Texas.—The Texas State Bee-Keepers' Association will meet at College Station, Tex., Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 5, 6 and 7, 1904, beginning at 10 a.m. on Tuesday. This will be during the meeting of the Texas Farmers' Congress, so it will be a great time. Railroad rates and board will be cheap. On the bee-keepers' program will be the following:

What are the essential qualities for making a successful bee-keeper?—L. Stachelhausen. Present standing of foul brood in Texas.—Louis H. Scholl. The 4x5 section super and its advantages.—Dr. J. B. Treon. Natural or artificial increase—which is the best?—W. O. Victor. The shallow, or divisible, or the regular Langstroth—which?—W. H. Laws. Production and proper grading of section honey.—W. E. Crandall. Importance of uniform standard cans for Texas—Udo Toepperwein. Criticism of the Laws' baby nuclei for mating queens.—Discussion led by O. P. Hyde. The St. Louis convention, and when and how to go.—H. H. Hyde. How many colonies will a good range support, and what should the bee-keeper pay for such location?—J. K. Hill. Successful management of out-apiaries.—Carl Wurth. The convention will open at the time named. Come early and take part.

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Forty Years Among the Bees, by Dr. C. C. Miller.—This book contains 328 pages, is bound in handsome cloth, with gold letters and design; it is printed on best book-paper, and illustrated with 112 beautiful original half-tone pictures, taken by Dr. Miller himself. It is unique in this regard. The first few pages are devoted to an interesting biographical sketch of Dr. Miller, telling how he happened to get into bee-keeping. Seventeen years ago he wrote a small book, called "A Year Among the Bees," but that little work has been out of print for a number of years. While some of the matter used in the former book is found in the new one, it all reads like a good new story of successful bee-keeping by one of the masters, and shows in minutest detail just how Dr. Miller does things with bees. Price, \$1.00.

Bee-Keeper's Guide, or Manual of the Apis, by Prof. A. J. Cook, of Pomona College, California. This book is not only instructive and helpful as a guide in bee-keeping, but is interesting and thoroughly practical and scientific. It contains a full delineation of the anatomy and physiology of bees. 544 pages. 295 illustrations. Bound in cloth. 19th thousand. Price, \$1.20.

Langstroth on the Honey-Bee, revised by Dadant.—This classic in bee-culture has been entirely re-written, and is fully illustrated. It treats of everything relating to bees and bee-keeping. No apiarian library is complete without this standard work by Rev. L. L. Langstroth—the Father of American Bee-Culture. It has 520 pages, bound in cloth. Price, \$1.20.

ABC of Bee-Culture, by A. I. & E. R. Root.—A cyclopedia of over 500 pages, describing everything pertaining to the care of the honey-bees. Contains about 400 engravings. It was written especially for beginners. Bound in cloth. Price, \$1.20.

Scientific Queen-Rearing, as Practically Applied, by G. M. Doolittle.—A method by which the very best of queen-bees are reared in perfect accord with Nature's way. Bound in cloth and illustrated. Price, \$1.00; in leatherette binding, 60 cents.

Bees and Honey, or Management of an Apiary for Pleasure and Profit, by Thomas G. Newman.—It is nicely illustrated, contains 160 pages. Price, in cloth, 75 cents; in paper, 50 cents.

Advanced Bee-Culture, Its Methods and Management, by W. Z. Hutchinson.—The author of this work is a practical and entertaining writer. You should read his book; 90 pages; bound in paper, and illustrated. Price, 50 cents.

Bienen-Kultur, by Thomas G. Newman.—This is a German translation of the principal portion of the book called "Bees and Honey." 100-page pamphlet. Price, 25 cents.

Apiary Register, by Thomas G. Newman.—Devotes two pages to a colony. Leather binding. Price, for 50 colonies, \$1.00.

Dr. Howard's Book on Foul Brood.—Gives the McEvoy Treatment and reviews the experiments of others. Price, 25 cents.

Winter Problem in Bee-Keeping, by G. R. Pierce.—Result of 25 years' experience. Price, 30 cents.

Foul Brood Treatment, by Prof. F. R. Cheshire.—Its Cause and Prevention. 10 cts.

Foul Brood, by A. R. Kohnke.—Origin, Development and Cure. Price, 10 cents.

HONEY AND BEESWAX

MARKET QUOTATIONS

CHICAGO, May 9.—The market has an oversupply of comb honey, very little of which will pass as No. 1 grade—price is 11@12c per pound, and off grades at a corresponding value. Extracted, 6@7c per pound for best grades of white; amber colors, 5@6c per pound. Beeswax, 30@32c. R. A. BURNETT & Co.

CINCINNATI, O., April 18.—The honey market continues to be dull; if anything, the prices on comb honey are lower; concessions are made on bigger lots. I quote: fancy white comb from 12 1/4@14c. Sales on extracted are made at the following prices: Amber, in barrels, 5 1/2@5 3/4c; in cans, 1/4c more; alfalfa, water-white, 6@6 1/4c; strictly white clover, for extra fancy, 7 1/2@8c. Beeswax, 30c. C. H. W. WEBER.

PHILADELPHIA, May 9.—There has been very little demand for comb honey the last two weeks, and prices are about the same. The commission men are not refusing any reasonable offer. We quote: Fancy, 12@13c; No. 1, 10@11c; buckwheat, 8@9c. Fancy extracted honey, 7 1/2c; amber, 6 1/2c. Beeswax, 31c.

We are producers of honey and do not handle on commission. WM. A. SELSER.

ALBANY, N. Y., April 25.—Honey market is very dull. Stocks of both comb and extracted are lighter than we thought would be a month ago, when we thought we would have to carry over the season. The demand for honey here will be light until the new crop comes. Quotations are nominally—8@13c for comb, and 5@6c for extracted. H. R. WRIGHT.

CINCINNATI, April 18.—The honey market here is reassuming activity, and judging from present indications, and the lateness of the season, the last season's crop will be consumed before the arrival of the new. Amber extracted in barrels and cans, 5 1/2@6 1/4c; white clover, 6 1/4@8 cents, according to quality and package. Fancy comb honey sells at 12@15c. Beeswax, 30 cents. THE FRED W. MUTH CO.

BOSTON, May 14.—The demand for honey is extremely light, almost nothing, and supplies are heavy for this time of the year, and our prices therefore are largely nominal. We quote fancy white at 15@16c; A No. 1, 14@15c; and No. 1, 14c, with no call for under grades. Extracted, from 6@7c. BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

KANSAS CITY, April 18.—The demand for honey is a little better than it has been. Prices on strictly fancy comb are \$2.50 per case, if not candied; the great trouble with the majority of honey coming from the West at present is that it is more or less candied, and about \$2.00 to \$2.25 is all we can get for it; amber is selling at \$2.25 per case. Extracted is dull at 5@6c. Beeswax in good demand at 30c. C. C. CLEMONS & Co.

NEW YORK, April 18.—There are no new features in the honey market. Some white honey is selling at from 12@13c; off grades at from 10@11c, and no demand for dark honey whatever. Market is very quiet on extracted of all grades, and prices are rather irregular. Beeswax very firm at 29@31c. HILDRETH & SEGELKEN.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 27.—White comb, 1-lb. sections, 11 1/4@12c; amber, 8@10c. Extracted, white, 5 1/2@5 3/4c; light amber, 4 1/4@4 3/4c; amber, 3 1/4@4 1/4c; dark amber, 3 1/4@3 3/4c. Beeswax, good to choice, light, 27 1/2@29c; dark, 25@26c.

A shipment of 300 cases extracted went forward the past week per steamer for Germany. Local trade is of light proportions. Quotable values remain as previously noted, but market is not firm at these figures.

HONEY AND BEESWAX

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